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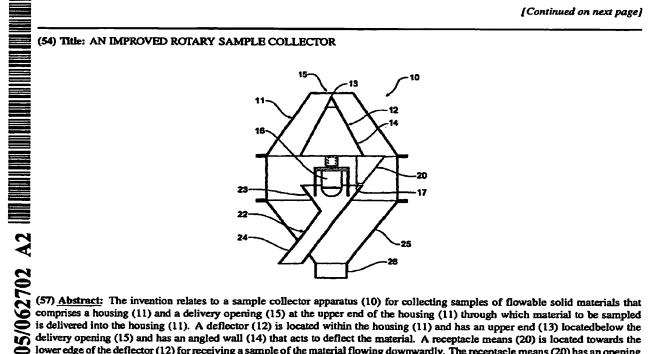
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delivery opening (15) and has an angled wall (14) that acts to deflect the material. A receptacle means (20) is located towards the lower edge of the deflector (12) for receiving a sample of the material flowing downwardly. The receptacle means (20) has an opening at (17) at its lower end through which the sample passes. Means 16 is provided for moving the receptacle means (20) with respect to the material flowing downwardly and a collection means (23) is located beneath the receptacle means (20) for collecting the sample from the opening (17) and a waste opening (26) is provided at the lower end of the housing (11) to discharge the portion of material not collected by the receptacle means (20). The invention provides a unique means of ensuring the random collection of a sample which is representative of the material as a whole that moves through the sample collection apparatus (10).